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STEEL COMMITTEE

Emerging Market Economy Forum

WORKSHOP ON STEEL TRADE ISSUES

PERSPECTIVES ON STEEL MARKETS AND TRADE
STATEMENT BY MR. BARRY D. SOLARZ ON THE NAFTA REGION

Please note a change on page 5, paragraph 17 of the document CCNM/EMEF/SC(98)4: the statistic in parenthesis of 17.7 per cent should be changed to 14.3 per cent.

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17. In 1997, with an apparent steel supply of 151 million NT, the NAFTA region imported 26.8 million tons of finished steel from non-NAFTA countries (14.3 per cent of finished steel demand in North America). Because the Asian crisis has only intensified the attraction of the NAFTA region as a major remaining magnet for world steel imports – and since trade and especially imports are a critical issue for North American steel producers in 1998 -- the following provides a more detailed elaboration of our concerns about the trade policies of other steel producing countries and their effects on the NAFTA region as a whole.